

Bloomington Municipal Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 5, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:03p.m. & opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members Present

Gregory Ware Lynda Gonzalez Jacqueline Cox Betty Gosney Adrian McDaniel
Eric Scott

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Council Member Gosney and seconded by Council Member McDaniel to approve the December minutes with the addition of comments from Edgardo Navarro.

Chairman Ware welcomed Jessie Valenzuela from Congressman Baca's office. Mr. Valenzuela gave a presentation on the upcoming U.S. Census and encouraged residents to spread the word about the importance of being counted. He indicated that there are employment opportunities with the U.S. Census Bureau.

Next, Mr. Edgardo Navarro introduced himself as the new Youth Member of the MAC. Mr. Navarro wished everyone a happy 2010. He stated that the Kayos Kidz were busy during December. He stated that it was good to see how the community is getting along. On Dec 16, they had the Santa's Helper event where they get food and toys and they were able to help 123 children from the Colton Unified School District and over 125 children from other districts. He extended a thank you to all those that donated to help make the event successful including Mr. Soto and the Boosters, Eric Davenport and the Colton Unified School District Member for attending the event. The Kayos Kidz also co-hosted a New Years Eve Party with Beverly Spencer at the teen center. They had lots of pre-teens and teens signed up to stay drug free. He also reported that Kim Brewer was chosen by Honda as the Southern California Volunteer of the year and thanked Supervisor Gonzales for allowing Dan Flores to go out and recognize her.

New Business

A. Bloomington Branch Library – Marissa Purkis Oleson, Branch Manager

Marissa Purkis Oleson introduced Maria Castillo, the Children's Specialist of the Library, who was there in attendance with her. She stated that everyone is going through financial difficulties and that includes them at the library. They had a summer reading program last year that had over 400 children signed up along with about 75-80 teens that participated in the programs. They also had over 8 children's programs that are not funded by the County. It costs \$200-\$300 for each one, so they are trying to raise funds for them. Most of the money they raise comes from the Friends of the Library, but it's not enough. She brought a challenge to the service groups to help them out with sponsoring a program. They do not want to cut programs. She is also encouraging residents to join and become a Friend of Bloomington Library for \$5 per individual or \$10 per family and or to volunteer. She invited all to attend so that they can see for themselves how busy they are and what a good job is done with the little staff they have and hopefully be motivated to donate. She added that they also accept book donations but cannot guarantee that they will add them to the collection but they can always sell them.

Staff Reports

A. Field Representative – Dan Flores

Dan stated that he hoped everyone had a Happy Holiday and safe New Year. He also invited everyone to check out the new 5th District website. Next month Code Enforcement will give a presentation at the MAC Meeting. He thanked Marissa for coming and discussing the Bloomington Library. He added that they can also assist by letting people know how they can donate and when they are having fund raisers to support the Library.

B. Sheriff's Department – Sergeant Finneran

Sgt. Finneran reported there were some school burglaries and some computers were stolen. He asked if anyone who may hear information about the stolen items contact the Sheriff's Dept. Sgt. Finneran also stated that there is a continuous problem with vehicle burglaries due to people leaving items in their car in plain sight. The burglars see them and break in. For questions regarding neighborhood watch or other questions, the public affairs number is 909-387-3700.

C. Special Districts- Tim Millington

Mr. Millington invited the residents to see the skateboard park addition at Kessler Park. He stated that it is complete and some of the features include a 6ft high half pipe. It is a professional quality surface and the kids are saying that it is one of the best parks in the Inland Empire. It is also designed for bikes. He also wanted to report that they will be starting renovation on the playground area of the Ayala Park.

Items for upcoming meetings

Chairman Ware encouraged residents to attend next month's meeting to hear Code Enforcement's presentation. Council Member Lynda Gonzalez asked if Jacob Babico can come again and give a report on the widening of Slover Avenue from Tamarind to Cedar and she is worried about tree stumps that are still there. Council Member McDaniel added that he would like Code Enforcement to address the issues with used car sales in parking lots.

Member Reports

Council Member McDaniel wished everyone a Happy New Year and hopes that there are many new good things for Bloomington. He also stated that he hoped everyone had a nice Christmas. He mentioned that everyone should help their neighbors or anyone they see that is in need. One of his neighbors asked him for a ride to work. His neighbor was so appreciative that his wife cooked dinner for them. He said that hopefully everyone gets out and helps their neighbors.

Council Member Jacqueline Cox wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that the Christmas Parade was a huge success. She said she hoped 2010 is better every day.

Council Member Gosney reiterated what Council Member Cox stated about the parade being a huge success. She also stated that Viola Hawkins gave an email address and they saw all the pictures of the parade. She stated that the children loved seeing Santa Clause.

Council Member Eric Scott wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated that there was a huge turnout for the Parade and Council Member Gosney and Cox were helping organize the kids and handing out gifts and ensuring that everything went smooth. Mr. Ware also was the

Grand Marshal and was the ring leader after Santa. It was a beautiful day, the sun came out and it was just a huge success.

Edgardo Navarro announced that in January they are starting with a donation from Honda and they have meetings at Grimes on Tuesday's and Sycamore Hills on Thursdays and Bloomington High School on Friday's. He also announced that on January 16th and 17th they will be hosting a Disney hands on event where they will cover 2 miles of the community and clean up. For more information call 909-873-5456. January 20th they will be going to Los Angeles where Kim Brewer will receive a new Honda for being the most helpful volunteer of 2010. They will also have a movie premier at Bloomington High entitled, "Through The Eyes Of The Kayos Kidz". Presale tickets are \$5 and \$7 at the door.

Public Comments

Eric Davenport- stated that they had to cancel the protest due to the rain and rescheduled for the 16th and they will meet at Cedar and ElRevino at 11:30 am. They will have signs so he is inviting everyone to attend since it affects them directly.

Debra Yocum honored Marissa Purkis-Oleson with a blue ribbon for everything she does for the kids.

Beverly Spencer stated that she is a Central Valley Prevention Program Mental Health facility, a grant funded agency who is working to change community conditions in regard to alcohol access and use by under aged youth and that is the primary focus. They have met with the Kayos Kidz and got them trained in the blue ribbon and she wanted to talk about the New Years Eve event and they combined the with the Fontana Mayors Youth Advisory Council, the Job Teen Center and the Fontana Community Coalition. They would like to start one in Bloomington or Colton Joint Unified School Districts and combine everyone so that they have more access to funds, to provide more services, training and events for the youth. The Kayos Kidz were there at 2pm and decorated it and welcomed all the kids and signed a pledge to keep alcohol and drug free and to Keep any pro drug or alcohol messages off of any website or posting they do and to notice what is going on around them and to talk to an adult if something is going on and to act on that to help save lives and be healthier. She wanted to share how proud she is of them and all of the things they do.

Dave Soto of the Bloomington Boosters gave a special thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas Parade and the MAC members that participated. He stated that whenever they need help, they call the Kayos Kidz and they are always there to help. Dave Jane and the Sheriff's Posse also did a great job and Eric Davenport did a great job with the bouncers. The Boosters were able to provide about 600 stockings and the kids got a stocking, a toy and a picture with Santa. At the last minute they got the extra 250 toy donation. They helped 28 children in the community and 12 different families they delivered food baskets and also to the woman's shelter on Maple St. He stated that the joy of seeing the children jump for joy makes volunteering great. He stated that the Boosters will start with a \$300 donation for the Library.

Maria Rivera is an independent agent who has been appointed by a company named Primerica. She wanted to state that she is not from Bloomington but based on everything she had heard about what is going on in Bloomington and it makes her want to come and live in Bloomington. She wanted to let everyone know that there services are free and they target consumers who are having financial difficulties.

Dave Jayne stated that the Christmas Parade was great. He added that he was out for the "Shop With a Cop" event and he helped a little girl that was 8 yrs old. She was nervous to go shopping because she said that the kids at her school made fun of her. It made him feel a lot better that she was able to shop and she told him that maybe she can go back to school in January. He also went to her house and took her family food. This was a family in their neighborhood. He said everyone needs to look at their neighbor and help in any way they can. He also stated that it would be good to be out on the 16th to help the Kayos Kidz clean up the streets. Finally, he announced that February 27th is the horse show.

Walt Las stated that they usually do some caroling to advertise the parade and hand out flyers, but this year, because of the Kayos Kidz, he was able to sit out and he said he hopes they come back next year.

MAC Chairman Ware reminded everyone that on Thursday January 7th 2010 at Congressman Joe Baca's office 201 D St. Suite 102 in San Bernardino, there will be a census count. He stated that it is very important to help the Congressman's office get an accurate count of the residents in Bloomington which will help Supervisor Gonzales get more funds for the local unincorporated areas.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next MAC meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

Submitted by Aurora Hernandez, MAC Secretary: (909) 387-3064